

OF THE BONDAGE

Representing, how dangerous it is
Protestants to have a Papist to
Rule over them.

The Dismal Aspect of Providence at this Critical Juncture, should be alarming to all true Protestants, to take under Serious Consideration the Eminent Danger, their Religion is in; especially in *Britain* and *Ireland*.

IN this short Paper, we cannot specify the just Prejudices, that Protestants have at the Church of *Rome*, because of their Errours in Doctrine; the Idolatry and Corruption of their Devotion, their Barbarous Cruelties, and the boundless Dominions, and Usurpations of the Court of *Rome*, &c. which are at large discovered, and solidly Confuted, by many Protestant Writers. But for the sake of such unwarie People, as are in hazard to be impos'd upon, and abus'd, at this Time: With respect to the Popish Pretender, we only glance at One or Two of such Popish Principles, as make it highly dangerous to the Religion, Liberty, and Property of Protestants; to be under the Regency of one Educated in the Popish Religion.

It is well known, That since *Britain*, with other Protestant States, upon most just and necessary Causes, did Separate from the Communion of the Church of *Rome*; she hath been as a Bear Robbed, of her Whelps, and hath used all manner Efforts, by Fraud and Force,



Carnal Policy could suggest, or Inveterate Malice could prompt unto for healing the Wound received at, and by the Glorious Reformation, begun, and carried on by *Zuinglius, Luther, Calvin*, and other Great Men of GOD, Qualified and Blessed, for this happy Work in their Day. It would take a large Volumn to narrate the horrid Conspiracies, and Attempts essayed by Papists, for compassing this Project, since the *Spanish Armada* 1588, to this Time; tho' we go not back to some, even before that Famous Period.

It is not to be doubted, But the Pope and his Partizans, are in continual Diligence, to Effectuat their Grand Design, of Ruining the Protestant Religion, and Recovering their Loss, especially now, when they have the Zeal of *France*, and Bigotrie of *Spain*, together with the prodigious Security of Protestants, meeting in a desireable conjuncture for them. And it is as little to be doubted, but they would reckon it among their chief Advantages, to have one upon the Throne of *Britain*, who is Educated in the Principles of Popery, and Sufficiently Instructed in all the pernicious Maxims of Tyranny, and Arbitrary Government. To this same purpose, say the *English* Protestants, in their Memorial for the Prince and Princess of *Orange*. P. 7. The Suppression of the Protestants in *England*, hath been always esteem'd the Principal Part of the Popish Design, to Extirpat the Protestant Religion: And therefore all the *Romish* Councils, Policies, and Industries; their Conspiracies, Poisoning and Massacres, have been long Employed about it, and have perfectly gained our now King [viz. *James 2. and 7.*] to serve their Design; they have United him with the *French* King, that their Conjoyn'd Counsels, Treasures and Strength, may finish their Work, of bringing *England* to the Obedience of their Church. &c.

But to come to the Point, The common Artifice used at this Time by the Pretender's Friends, is, That he will turn Protestant, and give all the Security can be desired, for Maintaining the Professed Religion of his Protestant Subjects. But this plausible Pretext is but a Cobweb Covering, soon seen through; for the thinking Part of the World by this time, hath experimentally Learned too much of the notorious Prevarications, and deceitful Practises of the Court and Church of *Rome*, to Re-ly upon their sham Professions, or the tricks of their Disciples: And thus, none but such as are infatuated from Heaven, or fatally bewitched with the uncertain hope of Earthly Advantages, will suffer themselves

selves to be pleased with so weak and witless an Argument; sure it will never take with Men of Thought and Conscience, considering that their Fraudulent Practices flow natively from their Established Principles, which makes it next to impossible, for Protestants to be secured at the Hands of Papists, under what ever Mask they appear.

One *Popish* Principle is, That it is Meritorious to propagate the *Roman Catholick* Religion, and to destroy that of the Reformed, by whatever means: And their known practices evince, that they stick not at Dissimulation, Perfidy, or *pro-temporal* Compliances with the Protestant Religion, &c. to gain their purpose. The Warrant and Foundation whereof is, the *Pope's* unlimited Power, and infallible Decrees, whereby he can give Dispensation and allowance to do the worst of things, when the Intention is so good and agreeable, as to improve Opportunities for advancing the *Catholick* Cause and Interest.

Another *Popish* Principle is, That Faith is not to be kept to Hereticks, and such are all Protestants in their account: Which irreligious Principle makes void and null all the promises, Stipulations, Securities, yea, and the most Sacred Oaths by word or write that can be given by *Papists* to Protestants: And conform to this Principle, it is one of their Modern politicks, to regard the Religion of Sacred Oaths no longer, than they may serve a Turn, which is one of the Articles of the *Jesuits* Morals: And we wish, as to this prophane politick, that it may not come to be a common practick, even among some ungodly Protestants, as at this time not a few have taken the Oath of *Abjuration*, whereby they solemnly swear to Renounce the *Pretender's* Claim, of whom there are shroud Grounds of Jealousie, they are for advancing him to the Throne of these Dominions, and they bewray this their Impiety on all occasions, many ways, specially by their declar'd hatred of, and virulent spite against the Protestant Succession, now Established by Law, unto which, in the foresaid Oath, they are also expressly sworn: O what sad Consciences have these Debauchees, who at the same time mock GOD, deceive Men, and further the Damnation of their own Souls.

We think fit to Vouch some Authorities, for proving the Imputation of the foresaid Principles, to *Romanists*, which as we have hinted, arise from the Immense Usurped Power of the *Roman* Pontiffs. As to the Authors cited, you may find the several Citations cast together at

the end of this Paper, according to the Figures set to the Authors Names.

(1) *Gregorie 7th*, called *Hildebrand*, Excommunicated the Emperor *Henrie IV*. Deposed him from his Imperial Dignity, absolved from their Oath of Allegiance, all that had sworn to him, or after should swear to him, and gave the Imperial Crown to *Rodolphus* Duke of *Swertia* (2) So did *Pope Innocent 3d* treat *John* King of *England*. (3) So did *Sixtus 5th* Excommunicate and Dethrone *Henrie* of *Barbon* King of *France* and *Navyr*. In the same manner did *Pius 5* deal with (4) *Elizabeth* Queen of *England*. (5) In the Memorial foresaid, it is represented, that the *Pope* can absolve the Consciences of Kings, from all Obligations by the Laws, and from Agreements, Promises and Oaths to their Kingdom, to maintain their great Charters, and all their Laws and Liberties: So the *Pope* absolved *Henrie 3d*, and *Edward 1st* of *England*, from their Oath to keep the great Charter. (6) The Council of *Florence* defines, That the Holy Apostolick and *Roman* Pontiff hath a Supremacy over the whole World, and full power given him by *Christ* to Rule and Govern the Universal Church, &c. (7) *Moscontius* affirms, that the *Pope* can do all things, above Law, without Law and contrary to Law (8) *Platina* tells, that *Pope Paul 2d* declar'd from his own Mouth, that all Rights and Laws were Lodged in his own Breast. (9) *Petr. Polanus* in his Excellent History of the Council of *Trent*, relates, that *Adrianus* a *Dominican* Friar, averred in face of Council, That the Authority of Dispensing with Humane Laws by the *Pope* is absolute and unlimited, seeing he is above them all, yea, albeit he should dispense with them, without any cause or reason, yet his Dispensation is to be held valid. (10) *Bellarmino* asserts that the *Roman* Pontiff hath power to dispose of Temporals, even unto the Deposition of Kings and Emperors, yea in vertue of his Spiritual power, he can Excommunicate secular Princes, and loose Subjects from their Oath of Allegiance, &c. (11) The *Lateran* Council expressly decrees, That all Princes and Lords shall under the greatest penalties cleanse their Country of Hereticks: And condescends upon diverse privileges granted to *Catholicks*, who are Zealous to exterminate Hereticks, whereof this is one. (12) That they themselves shall be freed from the pains of Hell, and that at their desire they may free from Purgatorie any three or four Souls they please. The (13) Author of some Considerations of present concernment. And (14) Archbishop *Sporf-*

wood tell us, that the *Pope* allows so great a Liberty of Dissimulation, that Dispensations have been granted from *Rome* not only for Catholics coming to Church, which may not be reputed such a Characteristick of Communion, but to promise, swear, subscribe, and do what else should be required of them, so as in mind they continue firm, and did use their diligence to advance in secret the *Roman Faith*. (15) *Pope Martin 5th* declar'd in writing to *Alexander Duke of Lithuania* Know, says he, That thou sinnest mortally, if thou keep thy Faith with Hereticks. Says (16) *Sanchez* an Oath cannot oblige in Conscience, beyond the intent of him that swears: And hence, he that hath no Intention to swear cannot be obliged to any thing at all The Story is famous concerning (17) *Jo. Huss*, that the Council of *Constance* condemn'd him to the Flames, notwithstanding the Emperor *Sigismund* his Letters of safe conduct upon the publick Faith, in favours of the said *Huss*, dated *October 1414*. Of which deceitful dealing, when the Emperor complain'd, all the satisfaction he got was, That Faith was not to be kept to Hereticks. Many more Citations and instances may be adduced to document the foresaid Principles and practices of *Romanists*, but this Scedule will not allow it.

From what is said, it is evidently plain to any, who don't wilfully shut their Eyes, and harden their Hearts, against Experience, Sense and Reason, That it is most perillous for Protestants, to have one Bed a Papist to Reign over them; whereof we have a recent Instance in the Reign of the late King *James, 2. and 7.* Who notwithstanding, all his Solemn Promises, Declarations and Obligements on the contrary, far Advanced his Project, of Re-uniting *Britain* to the Obedience, and See of *Rome*: And no doubt, he would have done much more, to have effectuated this Restoration, and to have re-acted the *Marain Bloody Tragedie* in *Britain*; if *GOD* in his Infinite Mercy, had not Seasonably raised up, and Prospered our Glorious Deliverer, *K. William*, of incomparable Memory, to break his Measures, and prevent us of intolerable Miserys, which should never be forgotten, but Engraven on Brats and Marble: See the Declaration of the Estates of the Kingdom of *Scotland*, containing the Claim of Right, &c.

We cannot omit here another Instance, to the present Purpose, known all the World over, *Viz.* The unparalleled Barbarity and Pefidiousness of the present (19) *French King*, in destroying his Protestant Subjects, after the strongest Grounds of Faith in his Favour, at his coming to the Crown

Crown ; he confirmed the Edict of *Nants*, and declared, that he would Maintain the Reformed, in all their Priviledges. He afterwards affirms in another Declaration, How highly he is satisfied in their Services ; and mentions his Design, of making them to Enjoy their Rights ; yet, alas ! without any provocation, or cause on the part of his Loyal and Peaceable Protestant Subjects, (but from pretended Zeal for the Catholick Faith,) he hath by a counter Edict, *October* 1685, Revoked, Suppressed and annulled the Edict of his Grandfather *Henry* the Great, given at *Nants*, *April* 1598 ; which the Protestants upon the publick Faith, did account Inviolable, Irrevocable and Unalterable ; and to this Day, Oppresses, and Persecutes them, most Cruelly and Furiously. See the fore-said (20) Memorial, for the Prince and Princess of *Orange*. It is little to be doubted, but the Pretender, who hath been long at School in *France*, will Write after this *French* Copie, of his Grand Patron and Patern, and follow the same political Methods and Measures.

It is a very strange Metamorphosis indeed, to see so many in *Britain*, who were justly overjoy'd, with the signal and Seasonable Deliverance, which GOD gave us, at, and by the happy Revolution ; yet now favouring such Measures and Managements, as may ingulph us in all the Ruines that plainly threaten our Religious and Civil Interests, if one be our King, who is imbued with Popish Education and Principles : Sure, such Juglers are not consistent with themselves, and their Disingenuity, such is as some *Pagans* would be ashamed of, and object against the Profession of Christianity, as repugnant to Reason and Probity.

If the Pretender come to the Throne of *Britain*, 'tis not to be doubted, but he will be under the Influence and Management of the *French* Kings Counsels and Direction, who hath patroniz'd him so much, and hath so many Demands upon him, which *Britain* must see to satisfy at their Cost ; and will find a heavy Task to do, considering what a cruel, and potent Task-Master the *French Pharaoh* will be. Moreover, the *French* King having quite Ruined his own Natural Subjects, for their being Protestants ; no question he will improve so fair an Oportunity, to ruine *British* Protestants too, which would contribute very much to advance his grand Design, of Amplifying his Monarchy in the West ; whose boundless Ambition and Attempts, the *English* and *Dutch* have Successfully Curbed under GOD, and were near to have broken intirely, and irrecoverably, in his Day.

It is usual, for Men of bare or broken Fortunes, to create confusions and disturbances, that they may fish in drumbly Waters, and raise themselves upon the Ruines of others: But it is strange, that Men of opulent Estates, especially they who Possess Kirk-Lands, should any way concur to throw the Kingdom into confusions; there is small prospect of their being Gainers, but Losers they may be, and ly open to become a Prey, to these who mind to Live upon Spoil and Rapine: Moreover, they run the hazard of the Pope's getting a Handle, in the Regency, of a *Popish* Prince to demand Restitution of Kirk-Lands, wh will not fail to Advance his Claims and Pretensions, and also to Exert his Paramount Power to this effect, when ever Occasion offereth.

There is nothing seems more to portend approaching confusions and Calamities, than the notorious Immoralities and Impieties of many professing Protestants, which abound licenciously at this Time; some are either flagitious in their Lives, or loose and sceptical in their Principles, even to an Atheistical ridiculing all that is Sacred and Virtuous; others are lukwarm and indifferent in the concern of Religion, little careful whether it sink or swim; all such seem to be prepar'd to comply with any, the most impious Laws and Impositions, rather than suffer in their secular Interests and Possessions for Religion, or Matters of Conscience. It wou'd be a just retaliation in the Holy Providence of GOD, that they who have Sold themselves to work wickedness, shou'd be Sold and given up to their Enemies Hands, to pay for their folly.

This seems to be a time of great Darkness, wherein the Enemies of our Religion, like the wild Beasts of prey in the Night, creep Abroad: It is too nottour that there are many *Popish* Priests and other Emissaries of *Rome* bestirring themselves at this time, specially in the North of *Scotland*, where they keep open *Mas*s, Marry and Baptize, and traffick industriously to Leaven the Country with *Popish* Errors, and to subvert the Protestant Religion, and that in contempt of Authority and the good Laws against *popish* Idolatries, and Agents. Sure it were the wisdom and safety of Protestant Rulers and Magistrates, to advert to the practices and plots of these crafty Bautifeaus [who are very uppish and insolent at this Juncture] and also vigoroussie to execute the Penal Laws against them, as did the wise and politick Queen *Elizabeth* in her Reign with great Zeal and success. It may be said to the shame and Reproach of the Protestants, in this degenerous Generation, that they carrie it so

indifferently what come of their Holy Religion, when *Papists* are so zealous and Indefatigable to propagate their Antichristian Idolatries and Superstitions. Tell it not in *Gath*, &c. We are far from the Heroick courage and forwardness of our worthy Ancestors, who in face of Fire and Sword, signalized their Zeal and Faithfulness for their Protestant Principles, and to keep themselves free from *Papery* and slavery. O! that Magistrates, Judges, Nobilitie, Gentry, and all Ranks of People, were deeply apprized of the Hazard that our Religion and Liberties are in this day, that all may in a righteous and Lawful way do Dutie in their severall Spheres of Activity, for the publick good and safetie of our Valuable Interests, Sacred and Civil. Alas! we seem to be Infatuated, and sunk in a deep sleep of sloath and security.

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| 1 Greg: 7. Rom: 7. Conc. in ap. | ap. Caransa sum: Concil: fol. 421. 423. |
| Fr. long a Cloil. sum, concil. P. 739. | 12 In Bulla Clem. 6. ap. Balaum. p. |
| 2 Math Paris Hist. de Joan. P. 423. | 391. |
| See Homil. of the Church of Eng: p. 636. | 13 Print. An: 1675: p: 476. |
| 3 Banos censur. in Excom. Sixti. 5. | 14 Spotsw. Hist: Ch: of Scotl: p. |
| an: 1585. p. 24. 29. | 308: 309. |
| 4 Sander: de scism: Angl: L. 7. | 15 Sander: de scism: Angl: L. 7. |
| 5 Memor: for the Pr: of Orange p. 5. | 16 Sancher op: moral: l. 2. c. 10. p. 49. |
| 6 Concil: Florent. an. 1439. Decr. 4. | 17 Flac: Illyr: Cat: Test: Ver: T. 2. |
| 7 De Majest. Milit: Eccl. T. 1. C. 1. | p: 181. ad 187. |
| 1. P. 24. | 18 April 1689: p. 2: 3. |
| 8 In vita pauli: 2. p: 331. | 19 M: Claudi: account of French pro- |
| 9 Hist. Conc. Frid. L. 7. P. 611. | test: print: 1686: p: 31: 32: and |
| 10 Beiarm. de potest. pap. adv. | Quicks Synod 1: v: p: 60: &c. |
| Baril. C. 3. P. 45. | 20 Memor: p: 6. 7. 8. |
| 11 Concil. Later: 2. Can. 3 de Heret. | |

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